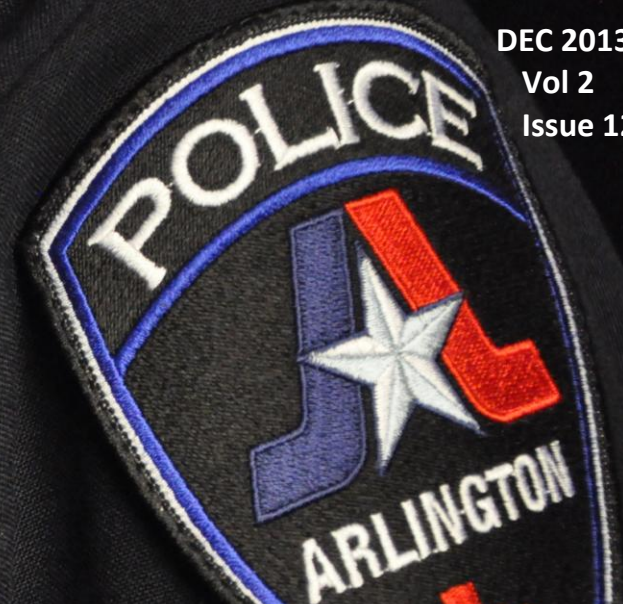


On Call Inside the Blue



A community news publication of the Arlington Police Department

On Call for a Safer, Brighter Holiday Season

The Arlington Police Department has many hard-working, service-oriented individuals who give back and add value to where they live and work every day.

During the holiday season, Arlington officers do even more. They distribute toys to underprivileged children and pitch in to serve and lend a helping hand where ever there's a need.

As public safety officials, they are also focused on making this time of the year safer.

Before dashing out for the holidays, Arlington residents are being reminded to put safety at the top of their list.

In neighborhoods, officers are talking with citizens, making safety presentations and reinforcing the importance of locking doors and windows.

In the South Police District, a special holiday operation is underway as part of a crime reduction strategy to reduce vehicle burglaries, theft, shoplifting offenses and commercial burglaries in retail districts. Holiday shoppers will notice more officers on bike and foot patrol.

Citizens On Patrol are out and Skywatch towers are up in busy parking lots thanks to more than 200 trained APD volunteers who serve as the extra eyes and ears officers need to identify and report suspicious activity.



"If you drink and drive, you will go to jail," says the Holiday DWI Task Force. Through education and focused enforcement, these officers are working to reduce the number of injury and fatality crashes caused by impaired drivers.

Community messaging, social media and digital message boards alongside major thoroughfares serve to inform, educate and remind the public to make safety a priority everywhere they go.

"It's a busy, but wonderful time of the year and your Arlington Police Department wishes it to be a very safe and enjoyable holiday season."

- Arlington Police Chief Will Johnson



This year, Arlington officers will grant holiday wishes to more than 1,500 children through its Santa Cops program. **Thank you for donating!**



Collecting tips for charity, Chief Will Johnson was one of many officers serving as celebrity waiters at this year's Holiday Magic.



Officers who mentor boys and girls at Thornton Elementary pitched in to serve a holiday meal to students, faculty and families.

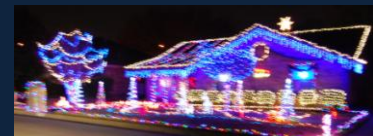
In the Community

It's cold out there! [Click here](#) for some important safety reminders from your Office of Emergency Management.

The **Arlington Christmas Tree Lighting** is tonight at 5:30 p.m. in downtown Arlington.

The **Christkindl Market** is now open. [Details Here.](#)

See the Lights at Interlochen!



To assist with travel, officers will staff traffic posts from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. each night beginning Dec. 14 through Christmas. [Click here for Interlochen Map.](#)

Let's Celebrate!
A New Citizens Police Academy Class graduates Tuesday, Dec. 10.
Hispanic Citizens Police Academy Class #25 graduates Dec. 11.

Welcome NEW Officers! On Dec. 20, twenty-three members of Police Academy Class #46 will graduate. Their motto is **"Never Stop, Never Settle, We are One!"**

Christmas Day is Dec. 25.

On Call

North District

Presentation for Women's Group Highlights Personal Safety While Shopping

Personal safety is an issue that concerns everyone. To help more people take charge of their own safety in malls and retail centers during the busy holiday shopping season, the Arlington Police Department was invited to conduct a safety presentation for a women's group meeting at the Most Blessed Sacrament Church located at 2100 N. Davis Dr.

The meeting on Nov. 20 was hosted by the St. Cecilia's Guild.

These holiday shoppers were reminded to always park in well lit areas when heading out after dark. They were all encouraged to shop with family and friends because there's always safety in numbers.



Shop Smart. Be Safe!

Of course, we should limit the amount of cash and credit cards we carry in our wallets and if we must carry a purse, make sure it is close to the body and underneath the arm.

Consider placing the wallet in a separate location such as a front pocket. Remember, contact mall security or call 9-1-1 to report suspicious activity, people or situations.

Shop Smart! Be Safe.



At all times, be aware of your surroundings and if you ever feel unsafe, don't be afraid to ask a store employee for an escort to your vehicle.

Those gathered for this presentation were reminded how to store packages in the trunk of the vehicle and never in plain sight. They were told to make sure children know what to do in the event they become separated from their parents or guardians. Children should seek help from a police officer, security guard or store employee.

Watch for a new crime prevention highlight every month from the North Police District.

For more information, contact Crime Prevention Officer Kimberly Fretwell at 817-459-5589 or Kim.Fretwell@Arlingtontx.gov.

On Call

South District

In This Cub Scout Pack, There Could be a Future Police Officer

On Wednesday, Nov. 6, the Arlington Police Department welcomed Cub Scout Pack 1993 to the South Police Bureau.

Sergeant Mike Skarbek led this group of excited Cub Scouts on a fun-filled evening of safety education and information.

Cub Scouts have been around since 1930. In scouting, there is fun and adventure. Being a Cub Scout means you're a member of a worldwide youth movement that stands for and believes in good citizenship, responsibility, compassion, cooperation, courage, faith, honesty and respect.

Cub Scouting is more than something to do. It's all about the boy you are and the person you will become.

Sergeant Skarbek, Corporal Bill Harris and Officer Carolyn Alequin led the pack through a fingerprinting exercise before taking them on a tour of the South Police Service Center and allowing them to ask questions about police work.

Corporal Dick Hill, a veteran in the department, spoke with the boys about traffic enforcement and what it means to be good citizens.

The community room was filled with scouts, officers, pack leaders and parents. Perhaps there was a future police officer in the pack who will grow up to be a contributing member of his community.

As a former Cub Scout, this experience brought back many great childhood memories.



Watch for a new crime prevention highlight every month from the South Police District.

For more information, contact Crime Prevention Officer Ray Polk at 817-459-5732 or Ray.Polk@Arlingtontx.gov.

On Call

East District

Walking the Block, Officers Talk With Neighbors about Safety and Quality of Life

On Tuesday, Nov 12, the efforts of the Arlington Police Department, Code Enforcement and Fire Department combined for a very successful "Walk the Block" event on Limestone Street in the East Police District.

Organized by Sgt. James Swoope, officers knocked on doors and talked with residents about safety and quality of life concerns in their area.

This was not just a one day event. This initiative is part of an ongoing process to correct problematic issues and improve

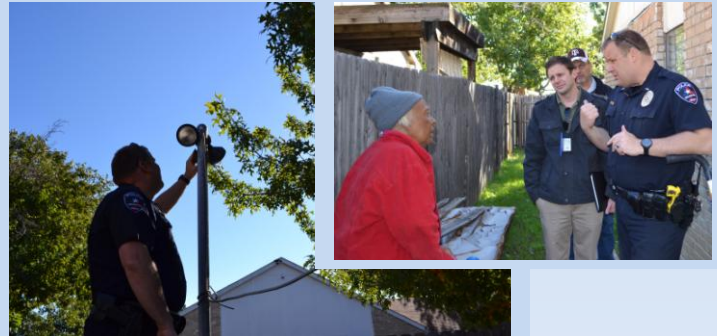
living conditions for the families who reside in these homes.

Together, City departments will work with property owners and tenants to develop short and long-term solutions to problems such as lighting, parking and code issues.

Two days later, we saw a similar effort underway on Ray and Hosack streets.

Led by Lt. Tarrick McGuire, this "Walk the Block" event on Nov. 14 also involved officers visiting one-on-one with residents about issues in their areas.

Arlington is a city that takes pride in having strong, safe and livable neighborhoods. We can all work together to see that vision achieved in all of our neighborhoods.



Every month, watch for a new crime prevention highlight from the East Police District.

For more information, contact Crime Prevention Officer Natalie Kuehling at 817-459-5817 or Maria.Kuehling@ArlingtonTx.gov.

On Call

West District

Before Dashing Out, Remember to Safeguard Your Home for the Holidays

The Arlington Police Department wants everyone to have a safe and enjoyable holiday season whether you're staying home or traveling to visit friends and family. Before you dash out, remember to remove opportunities for criminals to steal your holiday joy.

Make your home appear occupied even when you're away.

Put timers on televisions, radios, and lights. Place them in different rooms and set them for different times.

Ask a friend or neighbor to pick up your mail and newspapers to keep them from piling up while you're away.

After opening presents, do not advertise what you just received. Break down boxes, turn them inside out, and dispose of them properly.

Don't display your Christmas tree and presents in a front window where they can be easily seen.



Now is a good time to update or create your home inventory. Make a list of all your valuables and record the serial numbers. If you have an item without a serial number, take a quality, closeup photo and be sure to store these images in a safe place.

Don't share your holiday travel plans on social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter.

Keep doors and windows of your home or business locked. Check them regularly.



Watch for a new crime prevention highlight each month from the West Police District.

For more information, contact Crime Prevention Officer Doug Glotfely at 817-459-6072 or Doug.Glotfely@Arlingtontx.gov.

Arlington Detective Receives State Child Advocacy Award for Excellence

Since 1992, more than 34,000 children have entered the doors of the Alliance for Children, the Tarrant County non-profit Child Advocacy Center. According to data compiled by the agency, 70 percent of these children were victims of sexual abuse. For his dedication to seeking justice for children in crisis, Arlington Police Detective Garth Savage has been presented the Texas 2013 Partner in Courage Award. The award was

presented by the Children Advocacy Centers of Texas, Inc. in Austin on Oct. 30. Alliance officials say Detective Savage demonstrates “outstanding dedication to case preparation and the protection and healing of child abuse victims.” APD is among many Tarrant County partner agencies whose mission is to seek justice for the youngest victims of crime. Detective Savage serves on the Child Sexual Predator Task Force and has been with Arlington Police Department since 1994.



With Arlington Officers in the Classroom, Great Things Happen!



Students showing literacy improvement at Thornton Elementary earned complimentary admission tickets to Six Flags Over Texas thanks to the East Foot Patrol Officers who serve as reading buddies in their classrooms.



Building trust and inspiring excellence in our youth.

At Wimbish Elementary, officers spent time with boys and girls during an afternoon of science experiments.



Officers drop in on a career fair at Webb Elementary on Nov. 26.

Promotional Ceremony Pins One New Lieutenant and Seven Sergeants



Congratulations! The Arlington Police Department is proud to announce eight supervisory-level promotions. On Nov. 22, at the Tarrant County SubCOURthouse in downtown Arlington, Michael Moses was promoted to Lieutenant and the following were promoted to Sergeant: Eric Belisle, Charles Hanks, Michael Rodriguez, August Klinkenberg, Jennifer Rhodes, Chad Wong and Kyros Branch. Arlington Police Chief Will Johnson said each officer earning promotions has waited for that moment, the phone call that begins a new chapter in their career, the transition to leadership.



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